

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: SOMB Legislative Committee

FROM: Amy Campanelli, Deputy Chief

DATE: March 15, 2011

SUBJECT: Minutes from Phone Conference Meeting, 03.11.2011

Present for phone conference: Amy Campanelli, Jerry Isikof, Tracie Newton, Steve Goytia, Robin McGinnis, Patti Sudendorf, Sheryl Essenburg, and Alyssa Williams-Schafer. Not present: Abdi Tinwalla.

Amy Campanelli agreed to be the chair of the Legislative Committee. Tracie and Alyssa both stated that they track legislative bills dealing with sex offenders. There is a general assembly website where we can see these bills at [www.ilga.gov](http://www.ilga.gov). Alyssa tracks bills that are pertinent to probation and parole. Tracie tracks bills dealing with registration. Some of us also track bills or have colleagues in our respective offices who help us in this endeavor.

We discussed as a group what we hope to accomplish as a committee and what we see as our duties to the Board. Everyone seemed to agree that gaining access to the information, i.e. the newest bills, would be beneficial for our committee. We discussed further whether this committee or the SOMB could ever take a position on a particular bill. Many of us cannot take a particular position until we clear it through our superiors. It may also be difficult to take a position as a Board because we all come from different disciplines. The consensus from this committee seemed to be that one of our duties is to at least be made aware of pending legislation, discuss the legislation, and if feasible make recommendations regarding legislation to the SOMB.

Tracie suggested that one of the first tasks of this committee should be to send a letter to all members of the General Assembly telling them who we are and how we came into existence. We could share the website links to the SOMB and possibly our individual contact information with the legislators. We discussed that perhaps legislators will consult us and communicate with us regarding pending sex offender legislation. Robin began a discussion regarding the Adam Walsh Act and that many states are not going to come into compliance for economic reasons. Illinois is working towards compliance at this time.

The committee discussed further the slight possibility that on occasion we may all agree on a position to take relating to a particular piece of legislation. As a committee we would then present our position to the Board. The letter that we write to the General

Assembly identifying ourselves and the duties of the SOMB could be problematic also. We must be careful what we say in this letter. If the legislators call any one of us for information, many of us have governmental relations personnel who speak on behalf of our respective offices. We do not want to speak "out of turn" which then is misrepresented as the official position of the SOMB. After the meeting on March 17, 2011, this committee will meet to try and put together this letter with more discussion regarding these issues.

Further discussion revolved around other duties and responsibilities of this committee. We all need to read the statute that created the SOMB. We will research our duties and may recommend adjustments to the statute that created the SOMB. If this committee decides that changes need to be made, we must research how these changes can be brought about. We will look to the Administrative Code and the Illinois Rulemaking Process. Our committee can help the other Task Force committees if they also need to change or amend the statute.

jca

#### **Review of Meeting Minutes: March 11, 2011**

At the regular meeting of the Sex Offender Management Board held March 17, 2011, a motion was made by Robin McGinnis and seconded by Jerry Isikoff to approve the March 11, 2011 meeting minutes of the Legislative Committee. All Board members present approved the motion.